

GRADES 3-8	GENERAL ASSESSMENT OPTIONS ¹		ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT OPTIONS ¹
	General Test Administration	General Test Administration with Accommodations	NCEXTEND ¹²
Measured: Reading & Mathematics: North Carolina <i>Standard Course of Study</i> Science: <i>Essential Standards</i>	Grade Level	Grade Level	North Carolina <i>Extended Content Standards</i> (All Assessed Content Areas)
Academic Achievement Standards (Cut scores)	Grade-Level Academic Achievement Standards ³	Grade-Level Academic Achievement Standards ³	Alternate Academic Achievement Standards ⁴
Test Format Reading Grades 3–8	Multiple-Choice	Multiple-Choice	Performance Tasks
Test Format Mathematics Grades 3–4	Multiple-Choice	Multiple-Choice	Performance Tasks
Test Format Mathematics Grade 5	Multiple-Choice and Gridded Response/Numeric Entry	Multiple-Choice and Gridded Response/Numeric Entry	Performance Tasks
Test Format Mathematics Grades 6–8	Multiple-Choice and Gridded Response/Numeric Entry	Multiple-Choice and Gridded Response/Numeric Entry	Performance Tasks
Test Format Science Grades 5 and 8	Multiple-Choice and Technology Enhanced ⁵	Multiple-Choice and Technology Enhanced ⁵	Performance Tasks
Eligible Students	All Students	Students identified as English Learners who meet specific eligibility criteria, ⁶ students with disabilities who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), students with a Section 504 Plan, and students with transitory impairment documentation	Students with disabilities (who have a current IEP) and meet specific eligibility criteria ⁶

¹ North Carolina does not provide any general assessment or alternate assessment in a language other than English.

² Eligible students who have a current IEP and meet specific eligibility criteria participate with or without accommodations.

³ **Grade-Level Academic Achievement Standards:** Academic achievement standards are aligned with grade-level content and set forth the expectations of student performance.

⁴ **Alternate Academic Achievement Standards:** Alternate academic achievement standards are aligned with the grade-level *Extended Content Standards* of the North Carolina *Standard Course of Study* for English Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics, and the *Essential Standards* for Science. The alternate academic achievement standards are expectations of student performance that differ in complexity from grade-level academic achievement standards.

⁵ Technology enhanced items are included only in the online assessments.

⁶ Specific eligibility criteria are listed on page 2 of this document.

Specific Eligibility Criteria for Students with Disabilities

NCEXTEND1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student must have a current Individualized Education Program (IEP). • The student is enrolled in grades 3–8 according to PowerSchool. • The student is instructed using the North Carolina <i>Extended Content Standards</i> in <u>all</u> assessed content areas (i.e., English Language Arts/Reading, Mathematics, and Science). • The student has a <u>significant cognitive disability</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The student’s disability significantly impacts adaptive behaviors, defined as those skills which are essential for someone to live and function independently. - The student requires extensive and repeated individualized instruction and support to make meaningful gains. - The student uses substantially adapted materials and individualized methods of accessing information in alternative ways. <p>The vast majority of students with disabilities do not have a significant cognitive disability. The NCEXTEND1 is <u>not</u> appropriate for students who</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are being instructed in <u>any</u> or <u>all</u> of the assessed general grade-/course-level content standards of the North Carolina <i>Standard Course of Study</i> (i.e., Reading, Mathematics, and Science); - demonstrate delays only in academic achievement; - demonstrate delays only in selected areas of academic achievement; - demonstrate delays owing primarily to behavioral issues; or - if in high school, are pursuing a North Carolina high school diploma (including students enrolled in the Occupational Course of Study pathway). <p>Evidence for the decision to participate in NCEXTEND1 must <u>not</u> be based on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a disability category or label, - poor attendance or extended absences, - native language/social, cultural, or economic differences, - expected poor performance on the general education assessment, - academic or other services the student receives, - educational environment or instructional setting, - percent of time receiving special education services, - English Learner status, - low reading level/achievement level, - anticipated disruptive behavior, - impact of student scores on the accountability program, - administration decision, - anticipated emotional distress, or - need for accommodations to participate in the assessment process.
Accommodations	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Specific Eligibility Criteria for Students Identified as English Learners</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible for accommodations for state tests of Reading, Mathematics, or Science, students identified as English Learners (ELs) must have scored below Level 5.0 Bridging on the reading domain of the WIDA Screener/ACCESS for ELLs®.